

health care system is the envy of the world, disease or accident can still deprive many of our children of this birthright of opportunity.

Today, we celebrate tremendous accomplishments in child health. The significant and steady decline in infant mortality, and the great strides in preventing such diseases as polio or measles, are proud examples of what can be accomplished by a free and vibrant medical care system.

On this Child Health Day, 1984, however, we must dedicate ourselves to increasing our efforts. Past achievements only suggest that greater things can be accomplished in the future. We must dedicate ourselves to making further progress in reducing infant mortality for our whole society, and we must also seek to reduce infant mortality in those areas where the level is higher than the national average.

There also are severely handicapped infants who require not only the love and support of their families but who also must have the help of many groups in their communities—doctors, hospitals, health departments, providers of health care, and others—if they are to thrive.

There are teenage mothers and teenagers who become involved with abuse of alcohol and other substances—all these young people need our help and attention. During the coming year, it is my hope that we can continue to demonstrate what a free, energetic, and enlightened society can do cooperatively to protect and improve the health status of our Nation's most vital asset, our children.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, pursuant to a joint resolution approved May 18, 1928, as amended (36 U.S.C. 143), do hereby proclaim Monday, October 1, 1984, as Child Health Day, 1984.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and ninth.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5245 of October 3, 1984

National Birds of Prey Conservation Week, 1984

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

This Nation has been blessed with a rich variety of wildlife, including more than fifty kinds of hawks, falcons, eagles, vultures, and owls. Known as birds of prey, these species possess extraordinary beauty, strength, and power of flight. Inhabiting virtually every territory, often coexisting with man, they are a vital part of many natural systems and contribute significantly to the quality of the human environment.

From time immemorial, the history of mankind has been intertwined with birds of prey. The silent flight of the owl, the breathtaking swoop of the falcon across a mountain cliff, the effortless soaring of vultures over the plains, and the often spectacular passage of hawks on migration have captured the imagination of Americans. Since 1782, the Bald Eagle has served as the National Emblem of the United States.

As our country continues to grow and develop, we must remember our natural heritage and the need to provide future generations with opportunities to experience the excitement of a majestic eagle, a plummeting falcon, or the haunting call of an owl at night. The prosperity of this Nation rests upon both our material wealth and those values that enrich the quality of life. The preservation and propagation of our magnificent birds of prey will mean that these noble creatures will continue to awe and inspire generations of Americans yet unborn.

To emphasize the efforts of the many Americans who share appreciation for birds of prey and the need for their continued welfare, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 230 approved July 3, 1984, has designated the week of October 7 through October 13, 1984, as "National Birds of Prey Conservation Week" and authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation for this observance.

Ante, p. 296.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of October 7 through October 13, 1984, as National Birds of Prey Conservation Week. I encourage all Americans to observe this week by participating in appropriate ceremonies and activities planned by government agencies, individuals, and private associations and institutions throughout the country to promote the appreciation and conservation of birds of prey.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and ninth.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5246 of October 3, 1984

National Neighborhood Housing Services Week, 1984

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

America's neighborhoods, composed of individuals of diverse racial, ethnic, social, religious, and economic backgrounds, stand as a tribute of our Nation's democratic traditions and beliefs.

The preservation and improvement of the residential, commercial, and other facilities in neighborhoods throughout our country are essential to the strength of America's families and businesses. These have been and will continue to be the goals of the Neighborhood Housing Services programs.

Neighborhood Housing Services programs are partnerships of local residents, business leaders, and government officials. They have generated over two billion dollars in reinvestment funds to revitalize and preserve our country's neighborhoods. The success of these programs depends largely on the spirits of cooperation and voluntarism that is a hallmark of American life.

In recognition of those who have contributed their time, money, and energy to the preservation of our neighborhoods, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 566, has designated the week beginning October 7, 1984, as "National Neighborhood Housing Services Week" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this week.